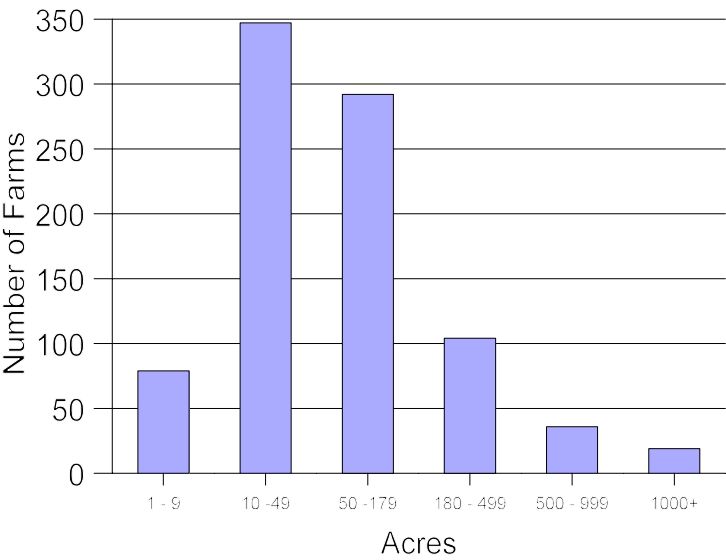
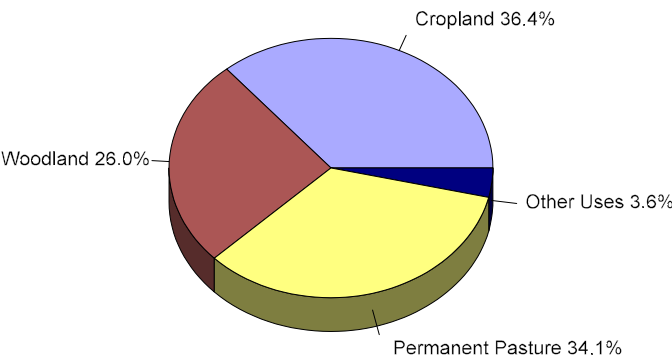


FARMS

Farms by Size



Land in Farms



Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Farming	435
Other	442
Principal operators by sex:	
Male	774
Female	103
Average age of principal operator (years)	55.7
All operators ⁵ by race:	
White	1,189
Black or African American	-
American Indian or Alaska Native	2
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
Asian	-
More than one race	-
All operators ⁵ of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	10

Footnotes: 1/ Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with items. 2/ Beginning with 1997, data includes an adjustment for undercoverage. 3/Due to changes in definition and wording of questions, figures for “cropland pasture” and “other pasture” are not always comparable from the Census. Acreage beginning with 1964 refer to pastureland and rangeland, other than cropland and woodland pastured, on farms with sales of agricultural products of \$2,500 and over. 4/ Beginning with 1974, agricultural operations under individual management with annual sales of \$1,000 or more. 5/Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm. NA Not Available. (D) Cannot be disclosed. (Z) Less than ½ of the unit shown. See “Census of Agriculture, Vol. 1, Geographic Series” for complete footnotes.



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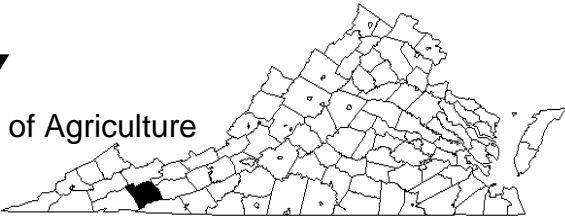
Phone (804) 771-2493
FAX Number (804)-771-2651
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>
Kevin Barnes, Director

For more Statistics on the 2002 Census of Agriculture go
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Revised 2004

SMYTH
COUNTY

2002 U.S. Census of Agriculture



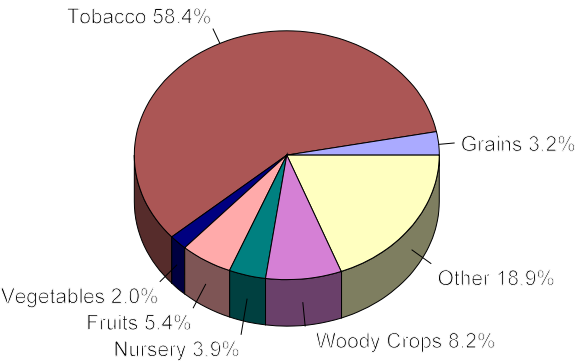
Smyth County is located in the southwestern part of the Great Valley of Virginia. Formed in 1831 from parts of Washington and Wythe, the county is named in honor of General Alexander Smyth, a prominent Virginia statesman.

The topography of the county consists of a series of forested mountain ridges separated by rolling and hilly valleys. Elevations of farmlands range from about 2,000 feet in the valleys to more than 4,000 feet on the mountain ridges. In fact, the highest elevations in Virginia are along the boundary of Smyth and Grayson Counties where Mount Rogers rises to 5,719 feet. More than half of the county’s area is wooded, and part of the Jefferson National Park is located within the county. Temperatures for the area average 35 degrees in January and 72 in July. The frost-free growing season is roughly 168 days, usually extending between April 27 and October 12. Average annual precipitation totals over 43 inches, with the most rainfall falling in June, July, and August.

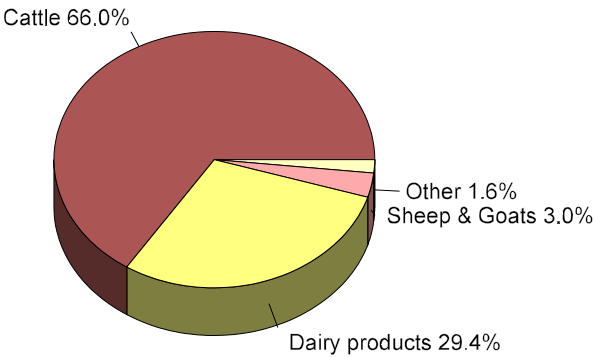
Highlights	2002	1997
Number of Farms	877	921
Land in Farms (acres)	124,884	131,082
Average size of farm	142	142
Market Value of Production		
County Total	\$21,873,000	\$20,335,000
Average per farm	\$24,941	\$22,079
Government Payments	\$557,000	\$91,000

CASH RECEIPTS

Crops



Livestock & Poultry



Ranked Items among the 98 state counties and 3,078 US Counties, 2002					
Commodity	Quantity	State Rank	Universe 1/	US Rank	Universe 1/
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	94	70	95	2,395	2,871
Tobacco	1,711	15	43	208	560
Cotton and cottonseed	-	-	15	-	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	60	69	95	1,964	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	159	37	93	1,019	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	114	73	95	2,040	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	239	6	76	231	1,774
Other crops and hay	553	42	97	1,818	3,046
Poultry and eggs	1	82	94	2,671	2,918
Cattle and calves	12,514	12	97	828	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	5,564	11	83	581	2,493
Hogs and pigs	11	50	90	2,289	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	565	3	93	164	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	76	52	94	2,024	3,014
Aquaculture	204	14	44	429	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	9	42	87	1,875	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Cattle and calves	35,096	14	97	911	3,059
All Goats	1,627	3	95	247	2,971
Horses and ponies	1,029	24	97	1,242	3,065
Sheep and lambs	577	29	93	1,357	2,867
Quail	286	13	34	633	1,412
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Forage - land used for all hay and haylage, grass silage, and greenchop	19,400	30	97	1,132	3,059
Corn for silage	2,480	13	87	653	2,307
Tobacco	597	15	43	184	563
Corn for grain	247	79	96	2,158	2,592
Cut Christmas trees	154	17	81	472	1,877

FARM DATA & LAND USE									
YEAR	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Avg. Value Per Acre For Land & Buildings	LAND USE					
				Cropland			Other Pasture 3/	Woodland	
				Harvested	Other	Pasture		Pasture	Not Pastured
	Number	Acres	Dollars	-Acres-					
1940	2,086	173,754	55	38,415	2,989	66,375	NA	NA	NA
1945	2,001	175,325	70	39,327	956	12,019	69,808	14,248	31,960
1950	1,895	181,067	101	37,477	4,291	18,061	62,266	18,432	35,316
1954	1,626	171,654	116	29,871	3,153	13,444	65,316	25,910	29,526
1959	1,272	155,011	132	26,426	2,508	11,207	65,709	13,234	31,081
1964	1,292	151,785	160	24,038	3,075	10,642	47,111	NA	NA
1969	1,257	144,264	203	20,741	3,906	32,396	34,039	17,332	10,685
1974 4/	940	134,247	430	20,749	2,121	29,306	31,508	NA	NA
1978	887	122,004	742	21,571	2,005	30,519	30,700	15,572	17,351
1982	959	122,879	776	21,357	2,255	25,486	34,996	16,346	18,398
1987	873	122,808	808	20,732	1,800	23,477	38,352	16,355	17,817
1992	839	119,973	1,015	21,918	2,604	30,920	33,185	13,754	14,830
1997 2/	921	131,082	1,301	24,131	2,516	34,196	32,540	14,587	20,031
2002	877	124,884	1,565	22,435	1,809	21,191	42,531	11,774	20,654

See footnotes on back.

